

**Michigan Supreme Court
State Court Administrative Office**

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State Court Administrator

DATE: December 16, 2002

TO: Chief Circuit, Probate, District and Municipal Judges
cc: Court Administrators

FROM: John D. Ferry, Jr., State Court Administrator

SUBJ: SCAO Administrative Memorandum 2002-13
Increases to Juror Compensation - Court Fee Increases
Enrolled Senate Bills 1448 and 1452
Enrolled House Bills 4551, 4552, 4553

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO ALL JUDGES AND APPROPRIATE STAFF

A package of five bills was enrolled late last week that would increase compensation to jurors as of October 1, 2003. The Juror Compensation Reimbursement Fund would be created as of January 1, 2003 in the state Department of Treasury. The purpose of the fund would be to reimburse trial court funding units for the increase in juror compensation. The fund would receive revenue from certain increased fees beginning January 1, 2003. Immediate notice will be distributed to all courts once confirmation of the Governor's signature on this legislation is received.

ESB 1448 - Beginning October 1, 2003, a juror shall be compensated at a rate not less than \$25 per day and \$12.50 per half day for the first day or half day of actual attendance and \$40 per day and \$20 per half day for each subsequent day or half day of actual attendance. (This is an increase from the current rate of not less than \$15 per day and \$7.50 per half day). Also beginning October 1, 2003, the qualification for jury service has been amended to disqualify individuals convicted of a felony. (This is a change from individuals under sentence for a felony at the time of jury selection.)

EHB 4551 - Beginning January 1, 2003, the Juror Compensation Fund is created in the state Treasury Department for the transmittal and deposit of a portion of revenues from the Driver License Clearance Fee, and District and Circuit Jury Demand Fees into the fund.

ESB 1452 - Beginning January 1, 2003, in circuit court, if a trial by jury is demanded, the party making the demand will pay a sum of \$85. (This is an increase from the current \$60 fee.) The increased amount, \$25, will be deposited in the Juror Compensation Reimbursement Fund.

Beginning January 1, 2003, in district court, if a trial by jury is demanded, the party making the demand will pay a sum of \$50. (This is an increase from the current \$40 fee.) The increased amount, \$10, will be deposited in the Juror Compensation Reimbursement Fund.

EHB 4552 - Beginning January 1, 2003, the Driver License Clearance Fee is increased from \$25 to \$45. The increase is retroactive to all unpaid clearances and all new suspensions as of the effective date. Of the \$45 fee, \$15 is distributed to the Secretary of State (unchanged), \$15 is distributed to the local funding unit (increase of \$5), and \$15 is distributed to the Juror Compensation Reimbursement Fund.

EHB 4553 - Beginning October 1, 2003, each court funding unit shall submit a report semiannually to the State Court Administrative Office providing the expense incurred during each six month period in the fiscal year by that funding unit due to the increase in minimum juror compensation referred to in ESB 1448 excluding reimbursement for juror compensation made in excess of the revised statutory minimums. Reimbursements from the fund will be made within two months of the semiannual report date. In addition to the amounts to be reimbursed for the 2004 state fiscal year, each funding unit shall receive an additional 14% of their first year reimbursement claim which is intended to offset expenses incurred for the local costs associated with adapting to the changes in the statutory minimum rates for juror compensation.

Department of Treasury remittance advice forms will be revised and forwarded to all courts in early January 2003.